

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) An isolated antibody or portion thereof that specifically binds to a protein whose sequence consists of amino acid residues +31 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2.
2. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 wherein said protein specifically bound by said antibody or portion thereof is glycosylated.
3. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 which is a monoclonal antibody.
4. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 which is a polyclonal antibody.
5. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 which is a chimeric antibody.
6. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 which is a single chain antibody.
7. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 which is a Fab fragment.
8. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 which is labeled.
9. (Original) The antibody of claim 8 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
10. (Original) A composition comprising the antibody or portion thereof of claim 1 and a carrier.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a monoclonal antibody.
12. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a polyclonal antibody.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a chimeric antibody.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a single chain antibody.
15. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a Fab fragment.
16. (Original) The composition of claim 10, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is labeled.
17. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
18. (Original) An isolated cell that produces the antibody or portion thereof of claim 1.
19. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 1.
20. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 3.
21. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting NKEF C protein in a biological sample comprising:
 - (a) contacting the biological sample with the antibody or portion thereof of claim 1; and
 - (b) detecting the NKEF C protein in the biological sample.
22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody.
24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the antibody is a chimeric antibody.
25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the antibody is a single chain antibody.
26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the antibody is a Fab fragment.
27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the antibody is a labeled antibody.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an enzyme label;
- (b) a radioisotope; and
- (c) a fluorescent label.

29. (Original) An isolated antibody or portion thereof produced by immunizing an animal with a protein whose sequence comprises amino acid residues +31 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2; wherein said antibody or portion thereof specifically binds to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

30. (Original) An isolated antibody or portion thereof that specifically binds to a protein selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a protein whose sequence consists of amino acid residues +1 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a protein whose sequence consists of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (c) a protein whose sequence consists of at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

31. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30, that specifically binds protein (a).

32. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30, that specifically binds protein (b).

33. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30, that specifically binds protein (c).

34. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30, wherein said protein specifically bound by said isolated antibody or portion thereof is glycosylated.

35. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30 which is a monoclonal antibody.

36. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30 which is a polyclonal antibody.

37. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30, which is a chimeric antibody.

38. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30 which is a single chain antibody.

39. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30 which is a Fab fragment.
40. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 30 which is labeled.
41. (Original) The antibody of claim 40 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
42. (Original) A composition comprising the isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30 and a carrier.
43. (Original) The composition of claim 42, wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a monoclonal antibody.
44. (Original) The composition of claim 42, wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a polyclonal antibody.
45. (Original) The composition of claim 42, wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a chimeric antibody.
46. (Original) The composition of claim 42, wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a single chain antibody.
47. (Original) The composition of claim 42, wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a Fab fragment.
48. (Original) The composition of claim 42, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is labeled.
49. (Original) The composition of claim 48 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
50. (Original) An isolated cell that produces the antibody of claim 30.
51. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 30.

52. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 35.

53. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method of assaying detecting NKEF C protein in a biological sample comprising:
(a) contacting the biological sample with the isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 30; and
(b) detecting NKEF C protein in the biological sample.

54. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 53 wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a monoclonal antibody.

55. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 53 wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a polyclonal antibody.

56. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 53 wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a chimeric antibody.

57. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 53 wherein the isolated antibody or portion thereof is a single chain antibody.

58. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 53 wherein the antibody is a Fab fragment.

59. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 53 wherein the antibody is a labeled antibody.

60. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 59 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
(a) an enzyme label;
(b) a radioisotope; and
(c) a fluorescent label.

61. (Original) An antibody or portion thereof produced by immunizing an animal with a protein selected from the group consisting of:
(a) a protein whose sequence comprises amino acid residues +1 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2;
(b) a protein whose sequence comprises 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2; and
(c) a protein whose sequence comprises 50 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2;
wherein said antibody or portion thereof specifically binds to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

62. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 61 produced by immunizing an animal with protein (a).

63. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 61 produced by immunizing an animal with protein (b).
64. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 61 produced by immunizing an animal with protein (c).
65. (Original) An isolated antibody or portion thereof that specifically binds to a protein whose sequence consists of the amino acid sequence of the mature form of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157.
66. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 wherein said protein specifically bound by said antibody or portion thereof is glycosylated.
67. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 which is a monoclonal antibody.
68. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 which is a polyclonal antibody.
69. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 which is a chimeric antibody.
70. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 which is a single chain antibody.
71. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 which is a Fab fragment.
72. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 which is labeled.
73. (Original) The antibody of claim 72 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
74. (Original) A composition comprising the antibody or portion thereof of claim 65 and a carrier.
75. (Original) The composition of claim 74, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a monoclonal antibody.

76. (Original) The composition of claim 74, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a chimeric antibody.
77. (Original) The composition of claim 74, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a single chain antibody.
78. (Original) The composition of claim 74, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a Fab fragment.
79. (Original) The composition of claim 74, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is labeled.
80. (Original) The composition of claim 79 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
81. (Original) An isolated cell that produces the antibody of claim 65.
82. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 65.
83. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 67.
84. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting NKEF C protein in a biological sample comprising:
 - (a) contacting the biological sample with the antibody or portion thereof of claim 65; and
 - (b) detecting the NKEF C protein in the biological sample.
85. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 84 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
86. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 84 wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody.
87. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 84 wherein the antibody is a chimeric antibody.
88. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 84 wherein the antibody is a single chain antibody.
89. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 84 wherein the antibody is a Fab fragment.

90. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 84 wherein the antibody is a labeled antibody.

91. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
(a) an enzyme label;
(b) a radioisotope; and
(c) a fluorescent label.

92. (Currently Amended) An isolated antibody or portion thereof produced by immunizing an animal with a protein whose sequence comprises the amino acid sequence of the mature form of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157; wherein said antibody or portion thereof specifically binds to the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. [[97103]] 97157.

93. (Original) An isolated antibody or portion thereof that specifically binds to a protein selected from the group consisting of:
(a) a protein whose sequence consists of the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157;
(b) a protein whose sequence consists of 30 contiguous amino acid residues of a polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157; and
(c) a protein whose sequence consists of 50 contiguous amino acid residues of a polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157.

94. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 that specifically binds protein (a).

95. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 that specifically binds protein (b).

96. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 that specifically binds protein (c).

97. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93, wherein said protein specifically bound by said antibody or portion thereof is glycosylated.

98. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93, which is a monoclonal antibody.

99. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93, which is a polyclonal antibody.

100. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93, which is a chimeric antibody.
101. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 which is a single chain antibody.
102. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 which is a Fab fragment.
103. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 which is labeled.
104. (Original) The isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 103 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.
105. (Original) A composition comprising the isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93 and a carrier.
106. (Original) The composition of claim 105, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a monoclonal antibody.
107. (Original) The composition of claim 105, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a polyclonal antibody.
108. (Original) The composition of claim 105, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a chimeric antibody.
109. (Original) The composition of claim 105, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a single chain antibody.
110. (Original) The composition of claim 105, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a Fab fragment.
111. (Original) The composition of claim 105, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is labeled.
112. (Original) The composition of claim 111, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;

- (b) a radioisotope; and
- (c) a fluorescent label.

113. (Original) An isolated cell that produces the isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93.
114. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 93.
115. (Original) A hybridoma that produces the antibody of claim 98.
116. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting NKEF C protein in a biological sample comprising:
 - (a) contacting the biological sample from a test subject with the isolated antibody or portion thereof of claim 93; and
 - (b) detecting NKEF C protein in the biological sample.
117. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a monoclonal antibody.
118. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a polyclonal antibody.
119. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a chimeric antibody.
120. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a single chain antibody.
121. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is a Fab fragment.
122. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 116, wherein the antibody or portion thereof is labeled.
123. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 122, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) an enzyme label;
 - (b) a radioisotope; and
 - (c) a fluorescent label.

124. (Original) An antibody or portion thereof produced by immunizing an animal with a protein selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a protein whose sequence comprises the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157;
- (b) a protein whose sequence comprises at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of a polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157; and
- (c) a protein whose sequence comprises at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues of a polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157; wherein said antibody or portion thereof specifically binds to the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC® Deposit No. 97157.

125. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 124 produced by immunizing an animal with protein (a).

126. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 124 produced by immunizing an animal with protein (b).

127. (Original) The antibody or portion thereof of claim 124 produced by immunizing an animal with protein (c).

128-132. (Cancelled).